

Abstract

A telephony system and method are adapted for selecting an operating mode of a telephony system responsive to sensor inputs. A presence detector, communicatively coupled to the telephony system, detects people within a predetermined area associated with the telephony system. A detection signal is communicated to the telephony system responsive to a detection. The telephony system is operated in a first operating mode absent the detection signal, and in a second operating mode responsive to the detection signal. A system status display indicates a first data set in the first operating mode, and a second data set in the second operating mode, the second data set being different from the first data set. In a more particular implementation, a central station displays status information for remote telephone devices reflective of a user's presence. In another particular implementation, telephony system call routing is modified responsive to detected user presence and/or identity.